



BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL  
\*\*\*\*\*

ANNUAL REPORT  
=====

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
=====

for the year 1969

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MAY, 1970

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BLACKROD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

P U B L I C       H E A L T H       C O M M I T T E E

Chairman - Councillor J. W. Procter

Members - Councillors: Mrs. C. M. Everin, A. Mather  
R. Foulger Mrs. T. Unsworth  
J. Jolley J.P., L. Watkinson  
J. Marshall R. Winstnley

\*\*\*\*\*

Public Health Officer of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health

E. Taylor, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Divisional Health Office,  
Leigh Road,  
LEIGH

TEL: Leigh 73227/8/9.

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Public Health Inspector

J.F. Wood, M.A.P.H.I.

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Also Divisional Medical Officer,

Divisional Health Committee No.11  
Lancashire County Council

Divisional School Medical Officer  
Lancashire County Council

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report on the health of the District for 1969.

In spite of a decrease in the number of births (28) and an increase in the number of deaths (18), the estimated mid-year population was 4840 (an increase of 90). This was a result of a movement of families into the district.

As last year there were two infant deaths, both due to congenital malformations and unavoidable in the light of present knowledge. Because the total number of births was fewer than last year the infantile mortality rate showed an increase of 6.

The Council was fortunate to acquire 35 dormer dwelling homes which enabled it to clear a number of houses now unfit for habitation.

The increase of infectious disease was notable by its relative absence. The work of survey for the first Smoke Control Area was completed and an order approved to initiate it in September 1970.

I acknowledge the forbearance of the Committee, and of the constant help and co-operation of Mr. Wood and other colleagues in the Offices.

Yours faithfully,

E. TAYLOR,

Medical Officer of Health.

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# SECTION ' A '

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	2392.4 acres
Population Census 1961	...	...	...	...	...	...	3600
Population Estimated mid 1969	...	...	...	...	...	...	4840
Number of inhabited dwellings at end of 1969	...	...	...	...	...	...	1599
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£123,000
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£484
Social Conditions	- No material change.						

<u>BIRTHS</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Live Births:			
Legitimate	71	33	38
Illegitimate	5	2	3
	<u>76</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>41</u>

Live birth rate per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	...	...	...	15.7
Local Area comparability factor	...	...	...	.90
Adjusted rate	...	...	...	14.1

Still Births:			
Legitimate	2	1	1
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Still Birth rate per 1,000 (live & still births)			26
Total Live & Still Births	78	36	42





DEATHS:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Deaths - all ages	53	34	19
Infant Deaths (Under 1 year)			
Legitimate	2	Nil	2
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<u>2</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>2</u>

INFANT MORTALITY RATES:

Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 total live births ...	...	...	26
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	...	...	28
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	...	...	Nil
Neo-natal Mortality Rate deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births ...	...	...	26
Early neo-natal Mortality Rate deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births...	...	...	Nil
Perinatal Mortality Rate, still birth and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1000 total births	...	...	26
Mortality Rates per 1,000 estimated population:-...	...	...	

## Death Rates etc. (all ages)

Crude Rate ...	11.0
Area Comparability Factor ...	1.30
Adjusted Rate ...	14.3
Rates of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.20

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1969

	<u>All Ages</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
B19 (4) Malignant Neoplasm, intestine	2	-	2
B19 (6) Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchos	2	2	-
B19 (11) Other Malignant Neoplasms	1	1	-
B1 & 6 (3) Mental Disorders	1	1	-
B27 Hypertensive Disease	1	-	1
B28 Ischaemic Heart Disease	18	10	8
B29 Other forms of Heart Disease	2	1	1
B30 Cerebrovascular Disease	8	6	2
B46 (5) Other diseases of circulatory system	4	3	1
B31 Influenza	1	1	-
B32 Pneumonia	2	2	-
B33 Bronchitis and Emphysema	7	6	1
B46 (6) Other diseases of Respiratory system	1	1	-
B34 Peptic Ulcer	1	-	1
B42 Congenital anomalies	2	-	2
	<u>53</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>19</u>

Transferable Deaths included in the above

DEATHS - ALL AGES		
Female	Male	Total
19	24	43
2	11	13
11	11	22
2	11	13

# INFANT MORTALITY RATES

28	...	...	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 total live births
28	...	...	Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000
11	...	...	Deaths of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births
28	...	...	Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births
11	...	...	Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births
28	...	...	Deaths under 1 week and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total births

# DEATH RATES (All ages)

17.0	...	...	Crude Rate
1.50	...	...	Age-Standardized Rate
14.5	...	...	Adjusted Rate
1.20	...	...	Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate

# CAUSES OF DEATH UNDER 1 YEAR

Female	Male	All	Age
2	-	2	510 (1) Infectious diseases, infectious
-	2	2	510 (2) Infectious diseases, non-infectious
-	1	1	510 (3) Other infectious diseases
-	1	1	510 (4) Mental diseases
1	-	1	510 (5) Nervous diseases
1	10	11	510 (6) Infectious heart diseases
1	1	2	510 (7) Other forms of heart diseases
2	2	4	510 (8) Cardiovascular diseases
1	3	4	510 (9) Other diseases of circulatory system
-	1	1	510 (10) Intestines
-	2	2	510 (11) Peritonea
1	2	3	510 (12) Bronchitis and emphysema
-	1	1	510 (13) Other diseases of respiratory system
1	-	1	510 (14) Epiglottitis
2	-	2	510 (15) Congenital anomalies
19	24	43	

Transmittable diseases included in the above

[illegible]

Tel: Swinton  
061 794 4343

Care of Children - Children Act 1948

Children's Committee, Lancashire County Council

Area Children's Officer - T. A. Foster Esq.,  
Ashfield Park Drive, Standish, Tel: Standish 3147

Clinics:

1. Ante Natal and Post Natal  
164 New Street, Blackrod: Thursdays, Friday afternoon.
2. Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis and Small Pox Immunisation.  
164 New Street, Blackrod: 1st and 3rd Tuesday in month  
1-30 p.m. - 3-30 p.m.
3. Child Welfare:  
164 164 New Street, Blackrod                  Doctor present  
1st and 3rd Thursday in month        2-00 p.m. to 4-00 p.m.  
1st and 3rd Tuesday in month        1-30 p.m. to 3-30 p.m.
4. Ophthalmic:  
School Health Clinics: Jones Street, Horwich ) By  
Market St. Westhoughton) Appointment.
5. Orthopaedic:  
School Health Clinics: Jones Street, Horwich ) By  
Market St. Westhoughton) Appointment
6. Tuberculosis Dispensary and Chest Clinic:  
Civic Centre, Bolton.
7. Venereal Disease:  
i) Civic Centre, Bolton: Males - Monday to Friday 9-30 am to 12-30pm  
Mon.,Wed.,Friday 4-30 pm to 7-00 pm.  
  
Females - Tues.,Thurs.,Sat.9-30 am to 11-30 am  
Mon.,Wed.,Friday:4-30 pm to 7-00 pm





ii) Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.

Males: Friday - 2-30 pm to 6-30 pm

Females: Wednesday - 2 pm to 6 pm.

Urgent Cases: Mon. to Fri: 9 am to 5pm

Saturday 4-30 pm to 7 pm.

8. Convalescence:

Under arrangements made by Lancashire County Council -

Apply: Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

9. Convalescent Treatment:

Under arrangements by the Regional Hospital Board.

10. Health Visiting Service:

Health Visitors School Nurses are employed in the District  
by Lancashire County Council.

11. Home Help Service:

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council

Apply: Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

12. Home Nursing Service:

District Nurses are employed in the district by the  
Lancashire County Council.

13. Hospitals:

Bolton Royal Infirmary

Bolton & District General Hospital, Farnworth

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan

Chorley and District General Hospital.

14. Laboratory Facilities:

Regional Hospital Laboratories at Bolton and Wigan Infirmaries.

15. Maternity Homes:

Haslam, Havercroft and Heaton Grange Maternity Homes, Bolton.

Bolton & District General Hospital

Billinge Hospital.

16. Midwifery Service:

Domiciliary Midwives employed by the Lancashire County Council  
practice in the district.

17. Nursing Homes:

Newlands Nursing Home - Bolton.

Christopher Nursing Home - Wigan.

18. Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children:

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council.





19. Council for Moral Welfare Works:

Miss Rigby, 24 Acresfield, Bolton. Tel: Bolton 26524.

20. Welfare Services:

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council.

Apply: Divisional Health Office, Leigh Road, Leigh.

Residential accommodation at Atherleigh Grange.

Hourigan House, Leigh and Winifred Kettle House, Westhoughton.

21. X-Ray Facilities:

Available at Bolton Royal Infirmary and the Wigan Infirmary

Special Facilities for Chest X-Ray at the Hospital Board's

Dispensaries and Chest Clinics.



SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

**Water Supply:** The Urban District have their own water undertaking and the supply is obtained from a catchment area of some 170 acres of land owned and controlled by the Council.

The surface water and water from land springs is stored in a 20 million gallon impounding reservoir. The catchment area is mainly moorland in character and is situated in the Horwich Urban District.

The undertaking is adequate for the needs of the district at the present time, and bulk supplies are provided to the Adlington Urban District and to the Makerfield Water Board. All houses in the district are provided with water from public mains.

A total of 35 samples of water have been taken for bacteriological examination.

5 samples were taken from the raw water entering the Reservoir:-  
1 of these were satisfactory; 4 were unsatisfactory.

13 samples taken from the Distribution Mains, 12 of which were satisfactory;

17 samples were taken from a farm and workshop supplied from the Liverpool Corporation Aqueduct. 7 samples were satisfactory and 10 unsatisfactory.

Continuous chlorination is carried out to the water as it enters into the supply mains at the Council's Reservoir.

Restrictions on use of hose pipes and washing of flags was enforced during the summer months.

Drainage and Sewerage.

An additional 65 new dwellings have been connected into the sewer system and small extensions to the sewers have been undertaken by the housing developers to enable the new dwellings to be connected into the existing sewer network.

**Public Cleansing:** There are 1851 refuse bins to be emptied each week and a weekly collection has been maintained over the year with the exception of one week in July and September when the workmen have their annual holidays. Approximately 1900 tons of domestic refuse was collected and disposed of.

Refuse bins for domestic properties are supplied by the Council as a charge on the rate fund.

The refuse is disposed of by tipping in a disused mineral railway cutting which is being re-levelled and graded to adjoining field level.

One refuse collecting vehicle of a dual tip type, having a 12 cu.yard body fitted, is used for refuse collection, three loaders and one driver are regularly employed on this work.





Sanitary Inspections during the year: Some 62 complaints relating to sanitary matters including refuse collection were received. Throughout the year, 485 premises were visited for all purposes, five informal notices being served and 23 Statutory notices served.





## Clean Air Act 1956.

The No. 1. Smoke Control Area has been approved and some 335 houses and buildings are included in this Area. The Order becomes operative on 1st September 1970. Satisfactory progress is being made with the conversion of appliances to satisfy the requirements of the Act.

Survey work is also being undertaken in the preparation for approval of the No.2. Smoke Control Area.

The table below indicates monthly averages of the extent of Smoke and Sulphur Dioxide in the atmosphere in the district.

January	<u>Smoke Particles</u>		<u>Sulphur Dioxide</u>	
	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day Recorded</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Highest Day Recorded</u>
January	26	68	27	71
February	44	97	34	72
March	67	343	45	194
April	98	195	58	148
May	95	202	63	110
June	55	99	50	102
July	23	56	28	78
August	52	107	61	114
September	50	99	43	97
October	108	276	92	139
November	117	315	71	208
December	114	550	110	390

Offensive trades: There are no premises in the District in relation to an establishment where an offensive trade is carried out.

Common Lodging Houses - None registered.

Houses Let in Lodging p None registered.

Schools: There are four Junior Schools in the district and the sanitary accommodation is adequate in numbers for the schools. At one Junior School the closet accommodation is detached from the school buildings and it is found during the winter months, the water supply to the flushing cisterns is prone to freezing, owing to their exposed position.

Washing facilities are adequate at all the schools and meals for the school children are prepared outside the district and brought to the schools in insulated containers.

Rag flock and other Filling Materials Act 1951: No premises have been registered under the above Act.



Rodent Control: Complaints of rodents have been investigated and treatment carried out at the following premises.

		<u>Type of Property.</u>		
		Non Agricultural Dwelling Houses	other	Agricultural
No. of properties inspected after notification		12	-	-
No. of properties found to be infested by	Rats	4	-	4
	Mice	8	-	-
		<hr/>		
No. of properties treated		12	-	4

Several treatments at the Council's Refuse tip have been carried out.





## SECTION D

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk Supply - 58 samples of milk have been taken and submitted for bacteriological examination.

58 samples submitted for Brucellosis - (ring test) 9 positive  
49 negative

Resampling of individual cows in herd when positive results have been obtained in bulk samples and isolation of cows excreting Brucella and finally removal from herd after being identified.

Food Hygiene - All shops and food preparing premises have been visited during the year. General conditions were found to be satisfactory and matters of detail on the Food Hygiene Regulations were discussed with the occupier of the premises and it was not found necessary to institute proceedings.

The following table shows the number and type selling food -

General Grocers and Provision Dealers	12
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	1
Fishmongers	-
Meat Shops	2
Bakers and Confectioners	1
Fried Fish Shops	3
Sweet Shops (including ice cream and minerals)	1
Licensed premises, Clubs, Cafes, Snack Bars, and similar catering establishments.	13

Food poisoning - one case of suspected food poisoning were notified during the year. This was an infant at Wigan Infirmary at the time. Other members of the family were listed for infectious which proved negative.

Slaughterhouses - There are no slaughterhouses in use in the district all carcass meat being slaughtered outside the District.

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Factories Act 1961. In accordance with the provisions of Section 153 (1) of the Factories Act 1961, the Medical Officer of Health is required to report specifically on the administration of matters under part '11' and '18' of this Act, which are administered by the District Council.

#### PART I OF THE ACT

INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1) Factories in which Sections 1,2 3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	-	-	-	-
2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	11	7	-	-
3) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	-	-	-	-
	11	7	-	-

#### PART VIII OF THE ACT

Shops; Shops were inspected under the Shops Act and 22 Inspections were carried out for this purposes.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 - The following types of premises have been registered under the above Act:-

Class of premises	No registered.	No of persons Employed
Offices	2	4
Retail Shops	14	31
Wholesale Departments	1	3
Catering Establishments	3	19
Canteens	-	-
Fuel Storage Premises	-	-
	20	57

Nine premises have been visited 28 inspections made for the purposes of the Act.





# SECTION ' E '

## HOUSING

The Local Authority have acquired 35 Dormer Type Dwellings and these dwellings have enable the Council to proceed with their slum clearance programme.

31 Private dwellings have been constructed during the year.

The following shows in detail the work carried out during the year under review :-

(a) Inspection of dwelling houses :-

Number of houses inspected for defects	253
Number of inspections made	324

(b) Slum Clearance

Clearance Areas and Compulsory Purchase	
Confirmed	2
Number of dwellings in Clearance Area	20
Number of families rehoused in	
Clearance Area	19
Unfit houses closed	4
Number of families rehoused	4
Number of families displaced from houses	
to be demolished	1

Improvement of older houses:

The following table shows the extend of this work during 1969.

(a) Improvement Grants: No applications for Improvement Grants were received.

(b) Standard Grants:

<u>No. of applications received</u>		<u>No. of applications approved</u>		<u>No. of houses improved</u>	
Owner	Tenanted	Owner	Tenanted	Owner	Tenanted
Occupier		Occupier		Occupier	
5		5		5	

Amenities Provided.



Fixed Bath	Wash Hand Basin	Hot Water Supply	Inside W.C.	Food Store
3	4	3	5	4

The Authority has taken no action under the Housing Act 1964 where Local Authorities can require owners to avail themselves of Improvement Grants.

Housing Letting: 61 houses were re-let to tenants from the Council's Housing Waiting List.

At the present time, there are 118 applicants on the Council's Housing Waiting List, of which 84 are at the present time residing outside the district. 26 applications for aged persons bungalows are also listed, 9 of which are from people residing outside the district.





# SECTION 'F'

## Prevalance of, and Control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Diphtheria	No cases notified
Encephalitis	No cases notified
Erysipelas	No cases notified
Malaria	No cases notified
Measles	6 cases were reported during the year
	Age: 0-1-2-3-4-5-10-15-25 - 2 - - 2 2 - - -
Meningococcal Infectious	No cases notified
Paratyphoid Fever	No cases notified
Pneumonia	No cases notified
Poliomyelitis	No cases notified
Scarlet fever	No cases notified
Small Pox	No cases notified
Tuberculosis	No cases notified
Typhoid Fever	No cases notified
Whooping Cough	No cases notified
Chicken Pox	No cases notified
Salmonrella (Panama)	1 case reported during the year.

